In the claims:

1. (Previously presented) A method for processing packets of data comprising the steps of:

splitting each packet into a first portion and a second portion;

associating a first code with the first portion of data for each packet;

associating a second code with the second portion of data for each packet;

for each packet of data, storing the first portion of data, and its associated first code;

for each packet of data, storing the second portion of data and its associated second code; and

retrieving one of the first portions of data and its associated first code, retrieving one of the second portions of data and its associated second code, determining by the codes whether the first and second portions of data were generated from the same packet of data, and if the first and second portions of data were generated from the same packet of data, combining them to regenerate the packet of data.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising, if the first and second portions of data were not generated from the same packet of data, performing a recovery operation.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the recovery operation comprises discarding at least one portion of data.

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2 wherein the recovery operation comprises discarding portions of data until a first or second code of a portion of data indicates that the associated portion of data came from the same packet of data.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the codes for like portions of successive packets of data are set to a series of values which repeats periodically.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5 wherein each of the codes for like portions of packets of data is set to one of three values.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6 wherein one of the values is an idle value, wherein portions of packets of data associated with the idle value code are grouped in succession between portions of packets of data associated with codes having the other two values.

8-10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously presented) An apparatus for processing packets of data, comprising:

a splitting mechanism for splitting each packet of data into a first portion and a second portion, associating a first code with the first portion, and associating a second code with the second portion;

storage device for storing, for each packet of data, the first portion of data, its associated first code and the second portion of data and its associated second code; and

a recombining mechanism for reading from the storage device one of the first portions of data stored therein and its associated first code, and one of the second portions of data stored therein and its associated second code, determining by the codes whether the first and second portions of data were generated from the same packet of data, and if the first and second portions of data were generated from the same packet of data, combining them to regenerate the packet of data.

12. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein, if the first and second portions of data were not generated from the same packet of data, a recovery operation is performed to recover the correct portions of data.

13. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 12 wherein, in the recovery operation, at least one portion of data is discarded.

14. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 12 wherein, in the recovery operation, first and second portions of data are read from the storage device until a first or second code of the portions of data indicates that the associated portions of data came from the same packet of data.

15. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the codes for like portions of successive packets of data are set to a series of values which repeats periodically.

16. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein each of the codes for like portions of packets of data is set to one of three values.

17. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 16 wherein one of the values is an idle value, such that portions of packets of data associated with the idle value code are grouped in succession between portions of packets of data associated with codes having either of the other two remaining set values.

18-20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously presented) A method of recombining portions of data packets into their original data comprising the steps of:

reading from a storage device one of the first portions of data and a first code associated with the first portion of data;

reading from the same or another storage device one of the second portions of data and a second code associated with the second portion of data;

determining by the codes whether the first and second portions of data were generated from the same packet of data; and

if the first and second portions of data were generated from the same packet of data, combining them to regenerate the packet of data.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21 further comprising, if the first and second portions of data were not generated from the same packet of data, performing a recovery operation.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23 wherein the recovery operation comprises discarding at least one portion of data.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the recovery operation comprises discarding portions of data until the codes of the portions of data indicate that the associated portions of data came from the same packet of data.

26. (Previously presented) An apparatus for recombining portions of data packets into their original data packets comprising:

a reader mechanism reading from a storage device a first portion of data and a first code associated with the first portion of data, reading from the same or another storage device a second portion of data and a second code associated with the second portion of data;

a comparing mechanism comparing the first and second codes to determine whether the first and second portions of data were generated from the same packet of data; and

a recombination mechanism that, if the first and second portions of data were originally from the same packet of data, combining them to regenerate the packet of data.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 26 further comprising a recovery mechanism to perform a recovery operation if the first and second portions of data were not generated from the same packet of data.

29. (Original) The apparatus of claim 28 wherein, in performing the recovery operation, at least one portion of data is discarded.

30. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 28 wherein, in performing the recovery operation, portions of data are discarded until a first or second code of a portion of data indicates that the associated portion of data came from the same packet of data.